CLAIMS

1. A year-round decorative lighting apparatus with selectable holiday color schemes, comprising:

a decorative light strand which may be hung by an end user;

a plurality of addressable color-controllable red-green-blue (RGB) light-emitting diode (LED) nodes along the decorative light strand;

control circuitry;

memory;

the memory for storing data for a plurality of holiday color schemes, each holiday color scheme associated with one or more different holiday colors;

a decorating selector which provides a plurality of user-selectable switch settings;

the control circuitry being operative to illuminate the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes along the decorative light strand with a different holiday color scheme for each user-selectable switch setting by:

selecting, from the memory, holiday color data for a holiday color scheme associated with a user-selectable switch setting; and

sending the holiday color data over one or more data lines to addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes associated with LED node address data, for illuminating the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes with the holiday color scheme in response to the user-selectable switch setting.

2. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of holiday color schemes include at least four different U.S. holiday color schemes.

3. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of holiday color schemes further comprise:

a Christmas holiday color scheme which includes the colors red and green;

a Halloween holiday color scheme which includes the color orange; and

an Independence Day holiday color scheme which consists of the color white.

4. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of holiday color schemes further comprise:

a Christmas holiday color scheme which includes the colors red and green;

a Halloween holiday color scheme which includes the color orange;

an Independence Day holiday color scheme which consists of the colors red, white, and blue;

a Valentine's Day holiday color scheme which includes the color red; and

a St. Patrick's Day holiday color scheme which includes the color green.

5. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a housing; and

the control circuitry and the memory carried in the housing.

6. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a wireless receiver which is coupled to the control circuitry; and

a wireless remote controller having the decorating selector which provides the plurality of user-selectable switch settings.

7. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least some holiday color schemes are associated with two or more different holiday colors which are illuminated in a repeated interleaved pattern along the decorative light strand.

8. A method of year-round holiday lighting with a decorative light strand, comprising:

providing a decorative light strand which may be hung by an end user;

in response to a first user switch setting of the decorative light strand, providing for a selective illumination of at least two holiday colors in the decorative light strand in accordance with a first holiday color scheme by sending first color data associated with the at least two holiday colors to different sets of addressable color-controllable red-green-blue (RGB) light-emitting diode (LED) nodes along the decorative light strand; and

in response to a second user switch setting of the decorative light strand, providing for a selective illumination of at least two holiday colors in the decorative light strand in

accordance with a second holiday color scheme by sending second color data associated with the at least two holiday colors to different sets of the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes along the decorative light strand.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

in response to a third user switch setting of the decorative light strand, providing for a selective illumination of at least two holiday colors in the decorative light strand in accordance with a third holiday color scheme by sending third color data corresponding to the at least two holiday colors to the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes along the decorative light strand.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the first holiday color scheme comprises an Independence Day holiday color scheme.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the first holiday color scheme comprises a Christmas holiday color scheme and the second holiday color scheme comprises an Independence Day holiday color scheme.

12. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

wherein the selective illumination of the at least two colors in the decorative light strand in accordance with the first holiday color scheme comprises the at least two colors being illuminated in a repeated interleaved pattern along the decorative light strand; and

wherein the selective illumination of the at least two colors in the decorative light strand in accordance with the second holiday color scheme comprises the at least two colors being illuminated in a repeated interleaved pattern along the decorative light strand.

13. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

wherein the selective illumination of the at least two colors in the decorative light strand in accordance with the first holiday color scheme comprises the at least two colors being illuminated in a repeated interleaved pattern which is scrolled along the decorative light strand; and

wherein the selective illumination of the at least two colors in the decorative light strand in accordance with the second holiday color scheme comprises the at least two colors being illuminated in a repeated interleaved pattern which is scrolled along the decorative light strand.

14. A decorative lighting apparatus with selectable color schemes, comprising:

a plurality of addressable color-controllable red-green-blue (RGB) light-emitting diode (LED) nodes along a decorative light strand;

control circuitry;

a decorating selector which provides a plurality of user-selectable color-control switches for illuminating a plurality of colors in the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes;

the control circuitry being operative to, for each one of all possible combinations of one or more user-selectable color-control switches which have been set, illuminate the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes along the decorative light strand with a color scheme corresponding to the one or more user-selectable color-control switches, by:

identifying color data associated with the one or more user-selectable color-control switches which have been set; and

sending the color data over one or more data lines to addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes associated with LED node address data.

15. The decorative light strand of claim 14, further comprising:

memory for storing the color data associated with the plurality of colors.

16. The decorative light strand of claim 14, wherein the plurality of colors include red, green, blue, and white.

17. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 14, further comprising;

wherein the control circuitry is operative to illuminate the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes with a first color when a first user-selectable color-control switch is set for the first color.

18. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 14, further comprising;

wherein the control circuitry is operative to illuminate a first color and a second color in the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes in a repeated interleaved pattern along the decorative light strand when a first user-selectable color-control switch is set for the first color and a second user-selectable color-control switch is set for the second color.

19. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 14, wherein each user-selectable color-control switch is associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of colors.

20. A year-round decorative lighting apparatus with user-selectable color schemes, comprising:

a decorative light strand which may be hung by an end user;

a plurality of addressable color-controllable red-green-blue (RGB) light-emitting diode (LED) nodes along the decorative light strand;

control circuitry;

memory;

a housing to which the decorative light strand may be attached;

the control circuitry and the memory contained within the housing;

the memory for storing data for at least ten (10) color schemes including U.S. holiday color schemes associated with at least Christmas, Independence Day, Halloween, Valentine's Day, and St. Patrick's Day;

a decorating selector comprising a keypad which provides a plurality of user-selectable switch settings;

the control circuitry being operative to illuminate the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes along the decorative light strand with a different color scheme for each user-selectable switch setting by:

selecting, from the memory, color data for a color scheme associated with a user-selectable switch setting; and

sending the color data over one or more data lines to addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes associated with LED node address data, for illuminating the addressable color-controllable RGB LED nodes with the color scheme in response to the user-selectable switch setting.

21. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 21, wherein the at least ten color schemes further include at least two color schemes from the following list: Easter, Mardi Gras, and Cinco De Mayo.

22. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 21 wherein, for color schemes having at least two colors, the at least two colors are illuminated in a repeated interleaved pattern along the decorative light strand.

23. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 21, wherein the color schemes include a plurality of sports team color schemes.

24. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 21, wherein the keypad is carried with the housing.

25. The decorative lighting apparatus of claim 21, further comprising:
a wireless receiver which is coupled to the control circuitry within the housing; and
a wireless remote controller which includes the keypad.